

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Eiji HIGUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2841

Application No.: 10/615,017

Examiner: H. Bui

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STATUS INQUIRY LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please telephone our firm's Patent Application Filing Department at 703-836-6400 with the status of the above-identified patent application, including an indication as to when the next communication can be expected.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 14, 2004

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